

We claim:

1. A method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device

comprising:

selecting a managed device for interfacing with networks or devices over the Internet;

5 affixing a unique identification number to the device;

creating a file for the managed device on a database, wherein the file can be downloaded
over the Internet to the managed device;

creating an access verification program for downloading the file, wherein the access
verification program permits a user of the managed device at a remote location to access the file

10 over the Internet by entering the unique identification number, and wherein the access

verification program permits the user to download the file over the Internet for a period of time;

reading the unique identification number by the user;

entering the unique identification number into the access verification program by the user;

verifying the unique identification number using the access verification program;

15 permitting access to the database by the user for downloading the file for a period of time;

downloading the file from the database to the managed device; and

blocking access to the database for downloading the file.

2. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device

according to claim 1, wherein the file is a configuration file.

3. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 1, wherein the managed device is a router.
4. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 1, wherein the unique identification number is the serial number of the managed device.
5. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 1, further comprising assigning a password to the managed device, wherein the password is used in combination with the unique identification number for access verification.
- 10 6. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 1, wherein the period of time is predetermined.
7. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 1, wherein the period of time is less than four hours.
8. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device
- 15 according to claim 1, wherein the period of time is less than one hour.
9. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device

according to claim 1, wherein the period of time is selected by the creator of the access verification program or the user.

10. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 1, wherein the user uses a portable device to read the unique identification
5 number.

11. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 10, wherein the portable device comprises a bar code scanner.

12. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 10, wherein a password is entered into the portable device.

10 13. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 10, wherein the unique identification number and the password are downloaded from the portable device to the database.

14. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device according to claim 1, wherein access to the database for downloading the file is blocked after the
15 file has been downloaded.

15. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a managed device

according to claim 1, wherein access to the database for downloading the file is blocked after the time period has expired.

16. A method for securely downloading files from a database to a router comprising:

selecting a router for interfacing with networks or devices over the Internet;

5 affixing a unique identification number to the router;

assigning a password to the router;

creating a configuration file for the router on a database, wherein the configuration file can be downloaded over the Internet to the router;

creating an access verification program for downloading the configuration file, wherein

10 the access verification program permits a user of the router at a remote location to access the configuration file over the Internet by entering the unique identification number and password, and wherein the access verification program permits the user to download the configuration file over the Internet for a period of time;

reading the unique identification number by the user;

15 entering the unique identification number and password into the access verification program by the user;

verifying the unique identification number and password using the access verification program;

20 permitting access to the database by the user for downloading the configuration file for a period of time;

downloading the configuration file from the database to the router; and
blocking access to the database for downloading the configuration file after the file has
been downloaded or the period of time has expired.

17. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim
5 16, wherein the unique identification number is the serial number of the router.

18. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim
16, wherein the period of time is predetermined.

19. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim
16, wherein the period of time is less than one hour.

10 20. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim
16, wherein the period of time is selected by the creator of the access verification program or the
user.

21. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim
16, wherein the user uses a portable device to read the unique identification number and the
15 password is entered into the portable device.

22. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim

21, wherein the portable device comprises a bar code scanner.

23. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim 21, wherein the unique identification number and the password are downloaded from the portable device to the database.

5 22. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim 16, wherein access to the database for downloading the file is blocked after the file has been downloaded.

23. The method for securely downloading files from a database to a router according to claim 1, wherein access to the database for downloading the file is blocked after the time period has
10 expired.